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18 July 1966

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INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

STATUS OF SOVIET MOBILE SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILE

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DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

NGA review completed

DIA review completed

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Directorate of Intelligence
18 July 1966

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM*

Status of Soviet Mobile Surface-to-Air Missile

Summary

A new mobile surface-to-air missile system called GANEF is apparently about to enter service with the Soviet Ground Forces. The GANEF system's mobility is superior to that of the air defense missile systems presently deployed in the USSR. Its operational use will considerably improve the defense against air attack of large tactical targets, such as nuclear weapons facilities, rear areas, and troop concentrations.

* Prepared by the Office of Current Intelligence and coordinated with the Office of Research and Reports and the Office of Scientific Intelligence.

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1. There is accumulating evidence to indicate that the USSR's mobile surface-to-air missile system (GANEF) is about to enter service with the Soviet Ground Forces. It has not yet been seen in Soviet troop units, but crews in training are apparently firing GANEF missiles on the Emba missile test range and are possibly training in the operation and maintenance of the GANEF system at Orenburg, 200 miles from the Emba range.

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2. The GANEF appears to be designed for the defense of large tactical targets such as nuclear weapons facilities, rear areas, and troop and vehicle concentrations. The Soviet armed forces newspaper Red Star of 26 May 1966 described GANEF missiles as "maneuverable, accurate, and reliable for the air defense of troops." This is the most precise description of the system and its mission the Soviet press has offered since the missile and its transporter were first displayed at the Moscow May Day parade in 1964.

3. Soviet crewmen may be getting training in handling and maintenance of the system at the Orenburg Antiaircraft Artillery Barracks East. Five GANEF transporter-launchers, each mounting one missile, were seen at the barracks [redacted]

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[redacted] The trainees at Orenburg may include officer-candidates from the nearby Orenburg Antiaircraft Artillery School. The school, located in town, apparently has no outside training facilities except the open areas of the AAA barracks and a single SA-2 surface-to-air missile (SAM) site located near Orenburg. Students at the Orenburg school are logical choices as GANEF trainees since they qualify as military electromechanical technicians or radio technicians upon graduation.

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4. Crews in training are probably conducting live practice firings of GANEF missiles at the Emba missile test range. GANEF missiles have been seen at the range [redacted] and tow targets and six IL-28 (Beagle) jet bombers are located at the Emba airfield. [redacted]

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5. The SA-2 SAM system--currently deployed with Soviet Ground Forces--lacks the mobility required by ground troops. In tactical use it requires a large caravan of support vehicles, some of which are restricted to good roads and slow speeds.

6. The GANEF launcher probably can be set up to fire in about one hour. However, the GANEF system can apparently keep pace with the major elements of an advancing army for reasonable periods. The missiles are mounted on a medium-tank chassis, which serves as both transporter and launcher. The target tracking radar also has been seen mounted on tracked vehicles. The service vehicles may also be track laying, enabling the entire system to travel cross-country. The use of storable fuel for the GANEF missile's ramjet engine should also facilitate logistics.

7. The radar equipment [redacted]

[redacted] suggests that the GANEF system uses a van-mounted early-warning radar for target acquisition. Although this radar cannot be moved as easily as the other vehicles of the system, it can probably be set up several miles from the launch site and moved less frequently without affecting the system's effectiveness.

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9. The GANEF missile should have the inflight maneuverability necessary to hit its most likely target--incoming tactical aircraft.

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